



PATENT  
450100-4983.1

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s) : Tetsujiro Kondo et al. Notice of Allowance  
Dated: 03/28/2005  
Serial No. : 09/636,138 Confirmation No. 6384  
Filing Date : August 10, 2000  
For : CODING APPARATUS AND METHOD, DECODING  
APPARATUS AND METHOD, DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM,  
STORAGE MEDIUM, AND SIGNAL  
Group Art Unit : 2624  
Examiner : Do, Anh Hong

745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, New York 10151

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with  
the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope  
addressed to: Mail Stop Issue Fee, Commissioner for Patents, P.O.  
Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on April 28, 2005

Thomas F. Presson, Reg. No. 41,442

Name of Applicant, Assignee or Registered Representative

Thomas F. Presson  
Signature

April 28, 2005  
Date of Signature

**RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

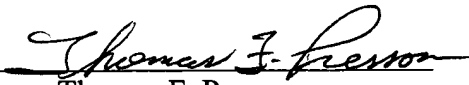
Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which  
accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed March 28, 2005. To the extent the Examiner's  
Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are  
allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be

interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicants' attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicants' contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicants of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicants, by their attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attorneys for Applicants

By   
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